

Media consolidation is dangerous, and Sinclair Broadcasting's recent decision, forcing their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election, clearly shows why.

Broadcasters, like Sinclair, are obligated by law to serve the public interest. That's part of why they are allowed to use the public airwaves free. The anti-Kerry film is an example of partisan exploitation of these airwaves. Sinclair is not interested in serving the public interest. It is interested in getting the political views of its owners across.

Actions such as this one by Sinclair shows why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. For a broadcast company to have its license renewed it should have to show its willingness to serve the public interests, not its own. Sinclair and the other broadcasters are using the public airwaves for free. The least they can do is present unbiased newsworthy material.

The license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.